MARVEL 6

CANTWELL
CAFU
D'ARMATA

# IRON MAN

Tony Stark is getting back to basics. He's resigned from the board of Stark Unlimited and is taking a hands-on approach to doing good in the world, outfitted in a new streamlined version of the Iron Man armor.

Korvac, resurrected in an android body, seeks to boost his already formidable powers to godlike levels by traveling to *Taa II*, Galactus' worldship. With Korvac holding James Rhodes hostage, Tony was forced to improvise and assembled an eclectic team of heroes to pursue him off-planet. But Korvac triggered an explosion to wipe out Tony's allies and confronted Tony and Hellcat, leaving them both gravely injured, before setting off for space.

# DREAMS OF DEICIDE

# IRON MAN


WRITER • CHRISTOPHER CANTWELL ARTIST • CAFU
COLOR ARTIST • FRANK D'ARMATA LETTERER • VC'S JOE CARAMAGNA
IRON MAN ARMOR DESIGN • ALEX ROSS

COVER • ALEX ROSS
VARIANT COVERS • ERNANDA SOUZA; PATRICK BROWN
DESIGNER • CARLOS LAO
ASSISTANT EDITOR • MARTIN BIRO ASSOCIATE EDITOR • ALANNA SMITH
EDITOR • TOM BREVOORT EDITOR IN CHIEF • C.B. CEBULSKI

IRON MAN CREATED BY STAN LEE, LARRY LIEBER, DON HECK & JACK KIRBY



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THIS ISN'T ME.

THIS ISN'T ME.

THIS HURTS.

THIS HURTS.

SOMETHING'S BROKEN.

SOMETHING'S BROKEN.

I HAVE TO FIX IT. I WILL.

I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN FIX IT. NOT THIS TIME.

I'M *DONE* BEING POLITE.

ALL IT'S GOTTEN ME IS A *BROKEN NECK.*

WAIT...

MY MIND IS *BROKEN* AGAIN.

WAIT...

*PATSY.*

*TONY.*

WAM

WAM

HRRRRRRRRRR!

NYC TAXI

GA-DNKK

AAAAAA!

DRIVE! NOW!

NO HOSPITAL...

YOU HAVE TO--

...NECK'S BROKEN, ARMOR HOLDING IT TOGETHER... NEED--A... A TECHNICIAN... LIKE...

"...HALCYON."

...THE HELL HAPPENED?

SOMETHING WENT BOOM... SOMETHING REALLY BIG.

AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO HAVE THAT SPIDER-SENSE JUNK, SCARLET?

WELL, MISTY, FORGIVE ME IF I ASSUMED IT WAS GOING OFF BECAUSE WE WERE ABOUT TO RUN INTO SOME HENCHMEN OR, DARE I SAY, A NASTY OL' KORVAC.

THE FORTUNATE NEWS IS...YOU'RE NOT DEAD.

GARGOYLE, HOLY #$%&.

THE HECK HAPPENED? WHAT DID HE DO?

DAMN, HE'S LOST A WHOLE WING. HE'S HURT BAD.

WHUMP

HE SHIELDED US WITH BIO-MYSTICAL ENERGY. HE DRAWS IT FROM HIS OWN LIFE FORCE.

THEN BY THAT SIMPLE MATH--EXPLOSION PLUS DRAINED LIFE ENERGY--WE'VE GOTTA GET HIM HELP BEFORE HE DIES.

VROOM

BLIZZARD, T-MINUS WHAT?

4 MINUTES AND 23 SECONDS UNTIL LAUNCH.

WEAPONS INVENTORY CHECK *COMPLETE.*

WE'LL NEED IT ALL ONCE WE REACH *TAA II.*

THE DEFENSES GALACTUS HAS BUILT ON HIS WORLDSHIP ARE NOTHING SHORT OF *DEVASTATING.*

I'M GOING TO SAY GOODBYE TO *COLONEL RHODES.* THEN WE CLOSE UP SHOP ON *EARTH.*

OUR *FINAL CRUSADE...*

LORD KORVAC.

*GUARDSMAN.* I'M GLAD YOU'RE *FINALLY* WITH US, BROTHER.

I'M *HONORED* TO BE WITH YOU.

GOOD. STRAP IN. *DESTINY* AWAITS.

C'MON, OL' NEW YORK PLUMBING... C'MON, OL' RHODEY... FIGHT IT... GIMME *SOMETHIN'* HERE...

CRAK!

*COLONEL, I WON'T ALLOW THAT!*

ZZZZBBEEOOWWWFFFM

THIS WON'T *DO.* HE'LL ALERT OTHERS. I'LL HAVE MY HANDS FULL ON *TAA II*--I *CAN'T* RISK AN ATTACK BY SOME CONTINGENT OF *EARTHLY IGNORANCE.*

LET *ME* GO. *I'LL* TAKE CARE OF HIM.

GUARDSMAN, I NEED YOU WITH *US*--YOU'VE SERVED ME WELL--

*THIS* IS HOW I SERVE.

YOUR FAITH IS *UNWAVERING.*

REMEMBER ME AT *ASCENSION.*

MOST ASSUREDLY. YOU'LL FEEL IT IN YOUR *VERY SOUL.*

DO NOT FAIL IN THIS, BROTHER!

THE *DRINK*... OR THE *DREAM?*

IN THIS MOMENT, I *REMEMBER* THAT QUESTION.

SOMETHING I ASKED MYSELF A *LONG TIME AGO.*

SOMETHING I *STILL* HAVE TO ASK MYSELF TIME AND AGAIN.

MISTY KNIGHT IS ABOUT TO HIT ME WITH A *NASTY* COCKTAIL OF STEROIDS AND HYDROMORPHONE.

I AM AN *ADDICT.* I *KNOW* WHAT THESE DRUGS COULD DO TO ME.

BUT I'LL DIE *RIGHT NOW* WITHOUT THEM. MY BLOOD-BRAIN BARRIER HAS BEEN DAMAGED. YEAH. THAT'S AS *BAD* AS IT SOUNDS.

THE *DRINK*... OR THE *DREAM?*

THE *DRINK*... *FOR* THE *DREAM*...?

NOW HALCYON IS FUSING MY ARMOR'S *CERVICAL COLUMN RINGS* TOGETHER. THIS WILL STABILIZE THE SPINAL INJURY AND PREVENT ME FROM *SUFFOCATING.* KID'S NOT BAD AT THIS.

NOW HE'S TORQUING THE INTERIOR CHASSIS STRUCTURE OF MY NECK TO *113 FOOT-POUNDS.*

CRRRRRIICK!
CRRRRICCK!

THIS WILL FURTHER STABILIZE THE FRACTURE. MY HEAD'S RANGE OF MOTION WILL BE LIMITED TO *50 DEGREES* OF ROTATION.

WITHOUT THE MEDS, THE PAIN FROM THE CUMULATIVE TRAUMA WOULD *IMMEDIATELY* SEND ME INTO SHOCK.

I CAN'T TAKE MY ARMOR OFF UNTIL I'M READY TO BE PREPPED FOR *EMERGENCY SURGERY.* THAT'S NOT HAPPENING ANYTIME SOON.

EVEN REMOVING MY HELMET RIGHT NOW WOULD PROVE *FATAL.*

I AM *ALIVE.*

I AM *ANGRY.*

I AM NO LONGER *APOLOGIZING* FOR *ANYTHING.*

NOT MY *MACHINES.* NOT MY *DECISIONS.* NOT MY *DEEDS.*

I AM GOING TO *WIN* THIS FIGHT. I AM THE ONE WHO *WINS.*

KORVAC *THINKS* HE IS GOD.

BUT I AM *IRON MAN.*

FROG-MAN, HOW'S GARGOYLE?

WHAT'S HIS E.T.A.?

HE'S STILL *REGENERATING.* HE LOST A LOT OF...*BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.*

HIS *E.T.A.?*

*ON RECOVERY. I NEED HIM UP AND AMBULATORY.*

WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO SAY? HE'S A #$%& *GARGOYLE.* YOU WANT ME TO *GOOGLE* IT?

*WE'RE LEAVING THE PLANET INSIDE OF* **TWO HOURS.** *IF HE'S OUT FOR THE COUNT, THEN HE'S A* **WASTE** *OF MY TIME, AND WE* **LEAVE HIM.**

OOOOKAY, MR. SHELL-HEAD...

I CAN ACTUALLY THINK OF A WAY MORE APPROPRIATE MODIFIER FOR *"HEAD"* RIGHT NOW.

I DON'T WANT TO GO BACK.

PLEASE DON'T MAKE ME GO BACK.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO.

I FORGIVE YOU, PATSY. I ALWAYS WILL. JUST FOLLOW ME.

TO WHERE, KORVAC? YOU SAY YOU'RE A SAVIOR.

WHAT DOES YOUR PARADISE EVEN LOOK LIKE?

IT LOOKS LIKE THIS.

PEACE. HARMONY. EVERYWHERE.

THE BREEZE IS... SWEET...AND WARM...

WHAT DID YOU THINK MY UNIVERSE WOULD LOOK LIKE?

PATSY. HOW DO YOU FEEL?

I FEEL LIKE I JUST HAD TWO INJECTIONS OF *OLANZAPINE.* HOW ABOUT YOU?

I'M SWIMMING IN PAIN MEDS. FEELS GREAT, BUT THAT MIGHT BE A PROBLEM LATER.

WELL, RIGHT NOW...I GENERALLY KNOW WHERE I AM. BUT...KORVAC'S STILL IN HERE. AND HE'S REALLY...TOSSING THE PLACE.

TONY... WHAT IF HE'S RIGHT?

HE'S NOT.

IT COULD BE BEAUTIFUL.

IT WOULDN'T BE.

KORVAC CAN'T CREATE A PERFECT UNIVERSE.

HELL, I BET YOU I COULD CREATE A BETTER UNIVERSE THAN KORVAC.

NOW YOU'RE SCARING ME.

THIS IS LOOKING MORE AND MORE LIKE A *SUICIDE* MISSION. IRON MAN COULD GET US ALL *KILLED.*

BUT IF HE AND HELLCAT GO ALONE, THEY'LL GET *THEMSELVES* KILLED, WITH THE SHAPE THEY'RE IN.

AND KORVAC DOES WHAT HE WANTS, THEN SAY *GOODBYE* TO LIFE AS YOU KNOW IT. IF WE ALL GO, THERE'S A BETTER CHANCE OF *STOPPING* HIM.

WHAT ABOUT CAPTAIN AMERICA OR SOMEBODY? AREN'T THERE LIKE *467 DIFFERENT AVENGERS* AND LIKE *EIGHT* SEPARATE TEAMS?

BY THE TIME THEY GET THEIR ACT TOGETHER, WE'LL BE *LIGHT-YEARS* AWAY.

HALCYON SAYS... "DON'T YOU GUYS SOMETIMES WORK WITH PEOPLE FROM *OUTER SPACE?"*

THAT'S...A DAMN GOOD POINT. SOMEONE *OFF-WORLD* COULD INTERCEPT US.

I CAN TRY TO GET A COVERT SIGNAL OUT ONCE WE LEAVE EARTH.

*NOBODY HERE IS LEAVING EARTH.*

*THERE'S A NEW SENIOR OFFICER ASSIGNED. ME.*

*I'M GETTING THE* **WHOLE CAVALRY** *TO RIDE AGAINST THIS DUDE. YOU ALL NEED TO CALL IT A DAY.*

*RHODEY. DAMN GLAD TO SEE YOU. BUT THIS IS MY FIGHT. MINE.*

THE *HELL* IT IS. LOOK AT YOU. YOU'RE THE *LAST* PERSON WHO SHOULD BE TAKING ON KORVAC RIGHT NOW.

DID HE TELL YOU HIS *NECK* IS BROKEN? 'CAUSE *THAT'S* COOL.

I ALREADY CALLED IN BACKUP, TONY. YOU NEED TO *TAG OUT--*

ENERGY WEAPONS ARE *USELESS* AGAINST KORVAC, SO I'M GONNA TRY GOOD OLD-FASHIONED *BRUTE FORCE--*

*TONY, GO HOME!*

*DO NOT GET IN MY WAY, JAMES--*

KRAAAKK

THIS IS YOUR LAST NIGHT ON EARTH, RHODES!

HEY, YOU'RE... ALL STILL ALIVE. ALL OF YOU.

HUH. HOW 'BOUT THAT.

TONY...HEY, MAYBE GIVE THE GUY A **BREAK**, MAN...

YOU WANNA TUSSLE, BIG GUY? LET'S TUSSLE--

KAPOW

KAERSCH KAERSCH KAERSCH KAERSCH

WHAT? I GAVE HIM A BREAK.

RHODEY. YOU'RE GOING TO BE MY PILOT ON THIS.

I TOLD YOU OTHERS ARE GONNA HANDLE IT!

YOU KNOW YOU'RE NOT GONNA STOP ME. SO YOU'RE EITHER WITH ME... OR NOT.

...FINE. MAYBE I CAN AT LEAST KEEP YOU FROM GETTING YOURSELF KILLED.

GOOD. NOW BRING ME THE MOST BLEEDING-EDGE, SOPHISTICATED AND TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED SPACECRAFT I OWN.

WE'RE GOING TO MAKE UP FOR LOST TIME.

TO BE CONTINUED!

# NEXT

IRON MAN AND HIS SMALL BAND OF ALLIES GO INTERSTELLAR AS THEY PURSUE KORVAC TO THE FARTHEST REACHES OF THE GALAXY!

ZONE